

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## TRIBUTE TO MRS. ANN SAMPSON

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the service of Mrs. Ann Sampson, as the devoted Golden Stars Drill Team coach at Eagle Grove High School in Eagle Grove, Iowa.

Ann has served as the coach of the drill team she founded for the past 14 years. Her passion for this team has had, and will continue to have, a lasting impact on the many young ladies that were fortunate enough to be led by Ann.

During Ann's first year as coach, the team did not have the resources for uniforms during performances, so she found old flag squad outfits at the high school and managed to transform them into the new uniforms for the team. Her exceptional organizational skills and the team's rapid success led to the first Golden Stars Drill Team Night at the end of the team's inaugural school year, which raised enough money for brand new uniforms the next school year. In her third year coaching, and second year competing, Ann led the Golden Stars to their first state title. y

Ann's impact on the young ladies wasn't limited to just the dance floor; important life lessons for achievement were instilled. Ann focused the team on forming a family bond, as a recipe for success. The Golden Stars motto is "you're only as strong as your weakest link." This motto speaks of Ann's natural abilities to lead this team through the years.

I consider it a great honor to represent Ann Sampson in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in thanking her for her service to the youth of Iowa and wish her and her family all the best that the future brings them.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 961, H. Res. 738—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the Government of Syria's continued interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM OF GREATER CLEVELAND

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Retired Senior Volun-

teer Program of Greater Cleveland (RSVP) on the occasion of their 35th anniversary of service to community non-profits and countless people in the Cleveland area.

RSVP is part of the Corporation for National and Community Service, one of the largest volunteer efforts in the country. The Greater Cleveland chapter of RSVP opened its doors in 1972, back when I was a Cleveland city councilman, and it is one of the biggest—and perhaps the best—in the country today.

Based on principles of giving back to a society which has given, the over 3,200 volunteers contribute over 400,000 hours of service to the community each year to more than 200 non-profit agencies. Many of these organizations simply could not exist without the help of the RSVP volunteers, and none could provide the level of quality service the volunteers offer without them. The list of organizations utilizing generous commitment of RSVP volunteers is broad and ranges from hospitals, to museums, to hunger centers, and to schools.

Meals are prepared and delivered to home-bound residents that might otherwise not have access to this service. School children are helped with their literacy skills and provided with quality adult role models. New citizens are welcomed to the country. The bereaved and ill are counseled. Educational tours are provided to students and the general public at NASA, the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and the Great Lakes Science Center, among many educational and entertaining outlets. And the list goes on.

One of the great successes of Cleveland's RSVP program is the management of a tutoring program for children in the Cleveland municipal schools called Experience Corps. During this school year alone, 220 tutors mentored 1,400 students in 14 elementary schools, and the hope is to someday be able to provide quality tutors to all children that need help. Cleveland's Experience Corps program, part of a national effort, has been so successful that it was selected as one of four throughout the country to serve as a model for expansion of the program nationally.

Community projects, such as festivals, fairs, walkathons and other civic functions, depend largely on volunteers for short-term or one-time assignments, and RSVP comes through with a group called Team RSVP. This year, Team RSVP volunteers have already participated in more than 100 community events, with many more scheduled through the end of 2007.

A group of volunteers called the RSVP Players creates and presents educational and entertaining performances for audiences of older adults throughout Northeast Ohio. The troupe has also assisted with informational programs about Medicare information, prescription misuse, predatory lending, re-entering the job market and other issues relevant to seniors.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring RSVP of Greater Cleveland, an organization with an extraordinary commitment to service in the Cleveland area, and its humble volunteers that fill numerous needs in

Ohio's 10th Congressional District and beyond. Their footprint is large and deep, and their accomplishments will be felt for generations to come.

## COMMENDING NASA LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

### HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution celebrating 50 years of America reaching for the stars.

Fifty years ago when the Soviets launched Sputnik our Nation was thrown into a panic because we believed we had fallen behind our major adversary.

That was true and America responded.

Our Nation came together and made it a national priority to advance our technology and challenge the Soviets in the space race.

This effort had an impact on my family as my father answered the Nation's call to work at the Redstone Rocket Factory with Werner Von Braun.

Those efforts produced the rockets that launched the first satellites, put an American into space, and ultimately landed a man on the moon.

The impact of the American space program on our Nation—and the efforts of the hundreds of thousands of people who participated in it—cannot be understated.

Today people from across our Nation and the world can watch these proceedings live due to satellite broadcast. We can communicate via cell phones and e-mail. We can cook our food in microwave ovens. We can access information immediately over the Internet. All of these advancements can trace their roots to the American space program.

The fact is that our space program has dramatically changed our Nation and our world for the better.

It has always been the case that when America is united toward a difficult challenge we rise to the occasion and succeed.

There is no greater example of this fact than the success of the American space program.

With all of the incredible developments of the last 50 years one can only wonder what the next 50 will bring.

Perhaps a permanent settlement on the moon.

Perhaps a manned mission to Mars.

One can only imagine what incredible advances such efforts will bring to our society.

One thing is certain—that when America reaches for the stars—the sky is the limit to what we can achieve.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

TRIBUTE TO MISSY THOMS AND  
JIM KAVARS

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize two heroic individuals from north Iowa for their swift and unselfish actions, which resulted in saving a man's life.

On Saturday, September 29, 2007, Eusebio "Joe" Garcia of Albert Lea, Minnesota, was driving on a highway in Mason City, Iowa, when he suffered a heart attack and lost control of his vehicle into the median.

Missy Thoms of Mason City and Jim Kavars of Clear Lake witnessed the vehicle in the median and quickly came to the scene to assist. Joe did not have a pulse and was not breathing. Missy and Jim conducted CPR until the paramedics arrived. Missy, a nurse at Mercy Hospital in Mason City, advised the paramedics that Joe needed an IV and to be defibrillated. With that helpful information and Missy and Jim's work, the paramedics revived Joe's breathing before they even had him in the ambulance.

Missy and Jim are great examples to use when teaching our children and grandchildren about the importance of helping thy neighbor.

I know that all of my colleagues join me in commending Missy Thoms and Jim Kavars and honoring them for their swift and unselfish actions which resulted in saving Joe Garcia's life. I am truly honored to represent both of these heroes in the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 962, H.R. 2089—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 Loyola Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the "Louisiana Armed Services Veterans Post Office."

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
BERNADETTE PAVLISH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Bernadette Pavlish, a devoted wife and loving mother, and I celebrate her dedication to her family and the community.

By all accounts, Bernadette simply lit up an entire room with her presence. Her smile became an instant source of comfort and joy for anyone who was lucky enough to cross paths with her. Bernadette was extremely generous with her time and talents; she never passed up an opportunity to help someone.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Bernadette Pavlish, who is

survived by her husband James, and her children Ursula, Vincent and Lavinia. Although she has passed, her spirit will continue to shine brightly and her memory will live on in all those blessed to have known her.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE  
OF AMERICA'S WATERWAY  
WATCH PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

**HON. CANDICE S. MILLER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2007*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and I want to commend Mr. BILIRAKIS for drawing attention to this important program.

The attacks of 9/11 made every citizen mindful of the need for constant vigilance to protect our country from the threat of terrorism. Keeping America safe requires the efforts of every American.

The openness of our Nation's waterways and harbors prevents opportunities for terrorists to exploit. The U.S. Coast Guard works very hard to ensure the safety of these areas, and they do a tremendous job for which we are all very grateful.

However, recreational boaters also have an important role to play in this area, and America's Waterway Watch program works hard to teach recreational boaters about what they can do to protect our homeland. Boaters provide critical eyes and ears in watching over our coasts, our ports, and other important infrastructure like bridges and tunnels.

Specifically, participants in the campaign are requested to report: Individuals engaged in irregular activity such as surveillance or unusual boating operations; unattended vessels in strange locations; lights flashing between boats; unusual activity near bridges, overpasses, industrial facilities, or fuel docks.

In Michigan this program has been particularly important. My home state has over 3,000 miles of shoreline—more than any other state except Alaska—which presents an incredible challenge for our government agencies to patrol. And of course we share much of this water with Canada which enables people to come across into the United States very easily. And in some places this liquid border is quite narrow—such as the St. Clair or Detroit Rivers. So we really have to rely on our boaters to keep their eyes on things.

In Michigan, we have more than 900,000 boats registered in our state, which makes us the number 1 state for per capita boat ownership, and 3rd overall behind Florida and California. Boating is an important part of life in the Great Lakes State.

In 2005, state officials began a campaign to notify our state's boaters of this Waterway Watch program. Working with the Coast Guard and the Michigan Boating Industries Association, Michigan sent out a brochure on this program with each watercraft registration renewal notice. Since 2007 was the 3rd year this was done, we have now reached nearly all of our state's boaters with information about the Waterway Watch program.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this program, I strongly support the resolution, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

TRIBUTE TO AUGUST GLIEM

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize August Gliem of Ogden, Iowa, for his longtime service to the International Lions Club. Gus was recently awarded the 50-Year Monarch Milestone Chevron Award for his 50 years of service to the Lions Club, which began on July 1, 1957.

The International Lions Club is a volunteer organization which works together to answer the needs that challenge communities around the world, including an end to preventable blindness, cleaning local parks and providing essential supplies to victims of natural disasters.

Fifty years of service isn't slowing Gus down, and I am told that he is still very active in the Lions Club. I consider it an honor to serve Gus in the United States Congress and I know that my colleagues will join me in recognizing and honoring Gus' dedication to his community and his commitment to the International Lions Club.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 963, H.R. 20—Melanie Blocker-Stokes Postpartum Depression Research and Care Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 3056, TAX COLLECTION  
RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETER WELCH**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2007*

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New York, Mr. RANGEL, for his work in bringing H.R. 3056 to the House floor. I have received feedback from Vermont citizens and members of the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU), both in Vermont and nationwide, strongly urging the repeal of the IRS authority to use private debt collectors. There has been much concern for this practice of using "private bounty hunters." National NTEU employees expressed deep concern for outsourcing of inherently governmental jobs.

In January, 2007, the National Taxpayer Advocate, who is appointed by the Treasury Secretary, sent a strong message to Congress urging repeal of this authority as a burden and cost to taxpayers. Taxpayers have faced overzealous intimidation and abuse by private collectors as well as the loss of privacy and confidential information. The Taxpayer Advocate reported to Congress that "the money spent on the IRS Private Debt Collection initiative is

an inefficient use of government dollars." The National Taxpayer Advocate Service has testified that IRS employees bring in \$20 for every dollar IRS spends, whereas private debt collectors bring in only 4.

This bill will reverse these inefficiencies and abuses on the American taxpayer.

I have also heard from other Vermont organizations, including many Builders Associations and other federal, state, and local government contractors, voicing strong support for the delay in implementation of certain tax withholding provisions provided in this bill. H.R. 3056 postpones for one year, until December 31, 2011, the application of a three-percent withholding requirement on the payments of goods and services made by the U.S. Government, States, and local governments. This delay allows the Treasury Secretary the time to study issues associated with the three-percent withholding, including the burdens to small businesses as well as the application of the tax to small expenditures for goods and services by governments.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support passage of this rule and the underlying bill.

HONORING KRIV-TV'S GREGG GROOGAN, MARK MULLER AND APRILLE MEEK FOR WINNING THE CASEY MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS JOURNALISM

### HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor three remarkable journalists at Houston's own KRIV-TV for winning the prestigious Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism.

Greg Groogan, Mark Muller and Aprille Meek last week received the 2007 Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism for short form television for their insightful story on the difficulties faced by Texas's parents of children using special education, "Special Ed-Broken Promise?" This story, the opening of a several-month series on special education in Texas, provided an eye-opening look at the hurdles that special education parents face in providing the "free appropriate public education" to which they are entitled per the Individual with Disabilities Education Act.

For Mr. Groogan, Mr. Muller and Ms. Meek, this impressive award represents the culmination of the excellent work that they have done over the years for KRIV-TV. Mr. Groogan alone has won over sixty journalism awards, including five Lone Star Emmys, 15 Associated Press Awards, and honors from the Houston Press Club, the Texas Cancer Society and the Texas State Teachers Association. Over 700 journalists entered the contest for the 2007 Casey Medals, demonstrating that these journalists truly went above and beyond the call of duty with the excellent work for which they received the Casey Medal.

In awarding these three deserving individuals with the Casey Medal, the Casey Journalism Center on Children and Families described "Special Ed-Broken Promise?" as a "masterful job," and indeed it was. It is fitting that this award would go to individuals who have shown incredible courage, tenacity and

wisdom in their reporting. I congratulate Mr. Groogan, Mr. Muller and Ms. Meek for this well-deserved award and I hope that their work serves as an inspiration to others across the nation.

### VISION CARE FOR KIDS ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

### HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. LOESACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 507, the Vision Care for Kids Act of 2007. I applaud Congressman GREEN for introducing this important legislation and for recognizing the importance of vision screening for our children.

It is estimated that one in four children in school and one in twenty children in preschool develop eye disorders. Screening for vision problems in children is extremely important as it can be difficult to recognize these types of problems in children, and children are often not capable of expressing they are experiencing vision issues.

Amblyopia is cited as the most common vision problem in children. This affects one or both eyes and can lead to permanent vision loss and long term problems. As many as 9,000 children in Iowa under the age of 4 suffer from this problem. Thankfully for children in Iowa, the University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and the Lions Club of Iowa teamed up in 2000 to create a program called Iowa KidSight. Iowa KidSight provides free vision screening for infants and young children throughout every county in Iowa and also serves to educate parents and the public on the benefits of vision screening.

Since 2000, Iowa KidSight has screened over 90,300 children from the ages of 6 years to 48 months. Unfortunately not every child who is referred to see a specialist is able to do so for a variety of reasons, which is why the Vision Care for Kids Act is so important. This legislation will help supplement the program in my state and others by awarding grants to help ensure these children are able to see a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist, receive the treatment they need, and also inform and educate parents, teachers, and others who work with children on recognizing early signs of vision problems.

Detecting early signs of vision problems in children and getting them the medical attention they need can be crucial for development and well-being for the rest of their lives. The Vision Care for Kids Act recognizes this fact and will make significant improvements in the amount of children who are able to receive the care they need to learn and grow. I strongly support H.R. 507, the Vision Care for Kids Act and urge its passage.

HONORING DR. MOHANA ARLA

### HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Mohana Arla, an

outstanding man with a great record of community service. Dr. Arla, a resident of Bullitt County, has been named Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the Bullitt County Education Association.

Dr. Arla has provided medical care for the citizens of Bullitt County for many years. He is an internal medicine physician with Bullitt County Family Practitioners in Hillview, Kentucky and has his own practice in Lebanon Junction, Kentucky. Dr. Arla has been a strong advocate of bringing additional medical practitioners to the Bullitt County area.

In July of 2007 Dr. Arla partnered with Jewish Hospital Medical Center South to conduct a free weight-loss program for the residents of Bullitt County. The program, titled "Lose a Pound, Gain a Dollar," gave residents the opportunity to lose weight while offering them a monetary reward for their hard work. This program is a great example of his commitment to improving the lives of Bullitt County's residents.

Dr. Arla has also demonstrated a strong commitment to local education. He has been very involved in efforts to bring a community college to Bullitt County. Dr. Arla is a member of the County Board leading the effort and has made a substantial donation to this cause.

It is my privilege to recognize Dr. Mohana Arla today, before the entire United States House of Representatives, for his hard work and service to his community.

HONORING RETIRED DALLAS  
POLICE OFFICER REX POST

### HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I, along with Representative RALPH HALL, would like to honor retired Dallas Police Officer, Corporal Rex Post. Corporal Post has been a fixture in the Dallas Police Department for over 24 years. Along with his normal duties as a patrol officer, Corporal Post was also a class advisor at the police academy and, when he was off duty, he was neighborhood crime watch patrol officer in the Lakewood neighborhood of Dallas.

Corporal Post's outstanding character can best be seen in his interactions with his community. Last year a senior citizen in Corporal Post's neighborhood was robbed of her money by a stranger who had come to her door. Corporal Post not only made sure the neighborhood was safe, but he and his family also brought her gifts to lift her spirits.

Recently, Corporal Post was diagnosed with stage-four colon cancer, which is a life-threatening cancer. In a show of support, his family, friends, and community have rallied around him as he battles the cancer. He says it is faith and the love of his wife Janet and sons Rex III, Austin, and Jonathan that keep him strong.

Madam Speaker, as Representatives of the city of Dallas, Texas and Paris, Texas, it is our distinct honor to commend retired Dallas Police Officer, Corporal Rex Post, for his outstanding service to his community and his courageous attitude and faith.

## TRIBUTE TO CHAD SCHIEBER

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Chad Schieber.

Chad was a dedicated police officer, an active member of the Midland, Michigan, community, and a loving husband and father. Chad was born in Midland, but he spent much of his early life in Traverse City, Michigan, where he grew up and attended the police academy. In 1994, Chad returned to Midland and joined the Midland Police Department.

As an officer, he consistently went above and beyond the call of duty. His accomplishments include being a mountain bike instructor within the department, helping organize the Midland Youth Law Enforcement Academy, serving as coordinator for the Midland County Crime Stoppers, implementing the department's child DNA identification program, and helping to establish the Midland Law Enforcement Memorial. For his efforts, Chad was honored with the 2006 Carl and Esther Gerstacker Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award by the Midland Police Department.

Chad was a devoted Christian and member of the Midland Christian Celebration Center. Chad served on the church's board, and he and his wife Sarah touched many lives through the marriage ministries they conducted.

Chad's biggest joy in life was his family. He leaves behind his wife, Sarah, of 12 years, his daughter Abigayle, and sons Noah and Micah.

Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Chad Schieber for his life of service and extend my sincerest sympathies to his family, friends and loved ones.

## HONORING SAM WASHINGTON

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to let my colleagues know that we recently lost one of our nation's most dedicated conservationists. Marvin "Sam" Washington embodied the American tradition of conservation. I want his family to know that Sam was an inspiration to us all and that he will be very sorely missed.

An avid hunter and angler, Sam served on the Board of Directors of Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) and was also a member of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and the State Parks Advisory Committee. From 2003 to 2007, Sam served as Executive Director of the MUCC, becoming one of our strongest advocates for access to Michigan's natural resources and protection of Michigan's hunting and fishing heritage.

Sam was a passionate outdoorsman who channeled his love of wildlife into action. He understood that nature must be cherished, enjoyed and preserved for future generations—not exploited. At a time when many of our natural resources are at risk, Sam stood tall, fighting for action on global warming, mercury emissions, wetlands protection and responsible land use.

Sam was much more than a conservationist, however—he was an integral part of his community. He taught English and coached various sports in the Bloomfield Hills School District. He was also a minister, as well as a dedicated husband and father to his wife Peggy and two daughters, Jenny and Wendy.

Madam Speaker, I would ask that all my colleagues join me in paying tribute to a great American conservationist, my friend Sam Washington.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
MONSIGNOR FRANK SAMMONS**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Syracuse native Monsignor Frank Sammons, who passed away on July 7 at the age of 87.

Throughout his life Monsignor Sammons was dedicated not only to the priesthood and his faith, but also to the people and communities he served.

A graduate of St. Vincent de Paul High School, Sammons continued his education at Niagara University, St. Bernard's Seminary, and the Theological College of Washington, DC. He was ordained into the Catholic priesthood on May 15, 1947 and served as parochial vicar in his first assignment at St. John the Baptist Church in Syracuse, New York.

In 1968, Monsignor Sammons became the pastor of St. Patrick's Church on Tipperary Hill where he served until his retirement in 1995. Even in retirement, Monsignor Sammons was active in the church and the community. He served at St. Matthew's Parish in East Syracuse and as Diocesan Minister to retired priests. Sammons also belonged to the Bishop Ludden Planning Committee and served as the Chaplain for Bishop Grimes' athletics.

Monsignor Sammons was equally as passionate about sports and youth as he was about the priesthood. A former athlete himself, Sammons was inducted into the Greater Syracuse Sports Hall of Fame. He founded the City-County Youth Board and served on the National Conference of Catholic Youth. Sammons also served as director of the Catholic Youth Organization, CYO, and he founded the organization's popular youth basketball league. In addition, Monsignor Sammons served as director of Lourdes Camp in Skaneateles, New York. He also took on the role of athletic director for all three Syracuse Catholic High Schools: Christian Brothers Academy, Bishop Grimes, and Bishop Ludden.

Monsignor Sammons' commitment to the Catholic Church and the people—especially the youth—that he served is unquestionable. Monsignor Sammons was a fixture in our community, and he will be sorely missed.

AZERBAIJAN'S STATE  
INDEPENDENCE DAY**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, one of our key democratic

allies—the Republic of Azerbaijan—is set to celebrate the 16th Anniversary of its re-independence on October 18. In the current global political climate, Azerbaijan is unique among democracies as the world's first Muslim democratic republic! A status I both commend and support.

Azerbaijan's first glimpse as a democratic republic came in 1918 shortly after the fall of the Russian Empire. Unfortunately, the Red Army invaded on April 28, 1920 and thereby preempting further democratization at that time.

Azerbaijan's second opportunity for freedom and self-determination came at a heavy price following the 1990 invasion of Baku by Soviet troops, resulting in the death of more than a hundred thirty civilians. Moscow rule grew weaker in Azerbaijan and by 1991 popular pressure led the country to declare its independence.

Given past Soviet rule and difficult geopolitical environment between Russia and Iran, Azerbaijan's determination to look westward for its political and economic allies should be applauded.

Azerbaijan cooperates with the United States within international and regional institutions including UN, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and NATO's Partnership for Peace program. Azerbaijan also works together with the United States within the framework of the Organization for Democracy and Development—GUAM which is comprised of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine. The group was created as a political, economic and strategic alliance aimed at overcoming common risks and threats and strengthening the independence and sovereignty of its member states.

The Republic of Azerbaijan is a standout nation among the South Caucasus countries, with a population of 8 million people and an ambitious economic policy. During the last decade Azerbaijan has been implementing structural reforms and adopting numerous laws and legislative changes, paving the way toward further integration within the global economy. The nation has been moving toward a more diversified economy to achieve sustainable growth and to meet the social and development needs of its population. As reported by the International Monetary Fund, IMF, Azerbaijan's macroeconomic performance "has been impressive with strong growth, low inflation, and a stable exchange rate." Real GDP grew by an annual average of over 10 percent during the last six years and build up to 34.4 percent in the first eight months of 2006, driven by investments in the energy sector, followed by growth in the construction and transportation sectors, and agriculture.

Since signing the "Contract of the Century" in 1994 Azerbaijan has developed its energy sources within the Caspian region to diversify western energy supplies. On July 13, 2006 the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan main oil export pipeline was inaugurated. The Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum natural gas pipeline is expected to be completed this fall. Azerbaijan also actively promotes the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railroad project which has been recognized as an important part of East-West and North-South transport corridor.

Diversification of the economy and ensuring the development of non-oil sectors is a priority for the government. This policy includes implementation of projects and programs that create favorable conditions for development of

private entrepreneurship, attracting investment in non-oil sector, creating new jobs, evaluation of potential industries and markets, and development of infrastructure in the regions.

The last 16 years of independence has not been without challenges. In 1993 the UN Security Council adopted four resolutions demanding complete, unconditional, and immediate withdrawal of Armenian forces from the occupied territories of Azerbaijan. NATO, OSCE, EU, and other international organizations also repeatedly called for the restoration of Azerbaijan's territorial integrity.

In January 2005 the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe adopted a resolution clearly stating that "considerable parts of the territory of Azerbaijan are still occupied by Armenian forces and separatist forces are still in control of the Nagorno-Karabakh region" and urged the withdrawal of Armenian military forces from all Azerbaijani territories.

We, the United States, recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as a part of Azerbaijan. A State Department's 2005 Fact Sheet states: "The United States does not recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as an independent country, and its leadership is not recognized internationally or by the United States. The United States supports the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and holds that the future status of Nagorno-Karabakh is a matter of negotiation between the parties."

Let us today commend the Republic of Azerbaijan on their forthcoming 16th Anniversary celebrations. And, let us today commit ourselves to their continued development as a global partner against the war on terrorism, toward economic growth, diversification of energy resources, and strengthening stability and security in the region.

**TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT BRIAN DEGENHARDT, OFFICER THOMAS BARKER, AND OFFICER JAMES CONLAN OF THE CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate members of the Chicago Police Department, including Sergeant Brian Degenhardt, Officer Thomas Barker, and Officer James Conlan, for receiving the "2007 Humane Law Enforcement Award" last week from The Humane Society of the United States and the National District Attorneys Association. This award was presented to Chicago's Police Department for the creation of its Animal Crimes Unit, which focuses on tackling illegal animal fighting in urban Chicago, where dogfighting has unfortunately flourished in recent years.

With its innovative focus on animal abuse prosecutions, the Animal Crimes Unit of the Chicago Police Department, overseen by Sergeant Degenhardt, now leads the way in combating dogfighting and serves as a model for tackling this insidious crime across the Nation. Although only one single officer in the city used to address crimes against animals in the past, there are now more than 8 specially-trained officers within the Animal Crimes Unit. In 2007 alone, officers Thomas Barker and

James Conlan logged more than 40 arrests related to dogfighting and animal abuse, and they recovered more than 100 abused dogs.

But the accomplishments of the Unit don't stop there. When Sergeant Degenhardt was making the case for the creation of the Animal Crimes Unit, he analyzed arrest records for the city between July 2001 and July 2004 and discovered that nearly 70 percent of the 300 individuals arrested for animal crimes were also arrested for other felonies. The methods used by the Animal Crimes Unit have also led to a reduction in other types of criminal activities, including human violence and drug dealing.

I am pleased to join The Humane Society of the United States and the National District Attorneys Association in congratulating these individuals in honor of their dedicated work on behalf of animals.

**HONORING THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN**

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Army Air Corps' legendary Tuskegee Airmen. On March 29, 2007, in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda, the surviving Tuskegee Airmen were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the most prestigious recognition that federal lawmakers can bestow. Tuskegee Airmen, from Colorado, that received the Congressional Gold Medal include: James E. Harrison, James H. Harvey III, Samuel C. Hunter Jr., Franklin J. Macon, John W. Mosley, Fitzroy "Buck" Newsum, Marion R. Rodgers, David A. Smith, William A. Walters, and Randolph Edwards.

The first African-American airmen unit in the U.S. military trained in Tuskegee, Alabama. A total of 450 Tuskegee Airmen served overseas on various missions. During WWII, the Airmen flew missions over North Africa, Italy and Sicily. Collectively, they flew more than 15,000 combat sorties, shot down 111 German planes, and disabled 150 German planes on the ground. Thirty-three Airmen were shot down and held as pawns, and 66 of the Airmen were killed.

The Tuskegee Airmen got their start in 1941 after the NAACP filed a lawsuit. President Franklin Roosevelt started the Army Air Corps training program as the first African-American training program. The Airmen were segregated from other units and endured blatant racism and discrimination while helping win World War II and change our Nation for the better. Their achievements helped contribute to the eventual integration of African-Americans into the military and also helped lead the way for further desegregation throughout the Nation.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating James E. Harrison, James H. Harvey III, Samuel C. Hunter Jr., Franklin J. Macon, John W. Mosley, Fitzroy "Buck" Newsum, Marion R. Rodgers, David A. Smith, William A. Walters, and Randolph Edwards for their patriotism and service to the United States of America. Their triumph over racism and discrimination, along with their outstanding service, is inspirational, and they are a source of pride for America and for all of Colorado. I wish them continued health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING MARGARET M. (PEGGY) MULLAN'S OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF HOMES AND SERVICES FOR THE AGING

**HON. JOHN B. SHADEGG**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding leader in the field of long-term care and aging services. Margaret M. (Peggy) Mullan is the outgoing chair of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA), and I congratulate her on what has been accomplished during her 2-year term.

AAHSA members help millions of individuals and their families every day through mission-driven, not-for-profit organizations dedicated to providing the services that people need, when they need them, in the place they call home. Its 5,700 member organizations, many of which have served their communities for generations, offer the continuum of aging services: adult day services, home health, community services, senior housing, assisted living residences, continuing care retirement communities and nursing homes. AAHSA's commitment is to create the future of aging services through quality people can trust.

During the 2 years that Peggy Mullan led AAHSA, she worked tirelessly to transform aging services, and her leadership has moved the field forward in a number of ways. Under her stewardship, AAHSA has created the Long-Term Care Solutions Project, an innovative plan to revise the financing of aging services. In addition, she placed major emphasis on diversity as part of her leadership agenda, achieving substantive, enduring, and diverse leadership development among our members. She presided over the inauguration of the Advancing Excellence in Nursing Homes campaign, a coalition of long-term care providers, caregivers, medical and quality improvement experts, government agencies, consumers and other stakeholders dedicated to reinvigorating efforts to improve the quality of care and quality of life for those living or recuperating in America's nursing homes. She positioned AAHSA as a leader in achieving the goals of the National Commission for Quality Long-term Care, a non-partisan, independent body charged with improving long-term care in America. The commission is working to develop solutions to the challenges of better financing for long-term care, ensuring consumer choice, attracting and retaining qualified caregivers, and making useful information on long-term care options available to consumers.

Peggy Mullan is a true leader in the field of aging services. In addition to chairing AAHSA, she is the executive director of the not-for-profit Beatitudes Campus in Phoenix, where over 600 elders live in apartments, assisted living, and a skilled nursing center. Hundreds of other elders from the surrounding community receive rehabilitation and education at Beatitudes. At Beatitudes, she has been instrumental in developing a seamlessly integrated system of services to meet the changing needs of residents as they age, a model for the way aging services should be provided to

America's elders. Prior to her work at Beatitudes, Peggy had a leadership role with Volunteers of America. She has chaired the Arizona Association of Homes for the Aging, and has served on Arizona governor's committees and task forces on the nursing shortage, long-term care, Alzheimer's residential care, and assisted living. She also has been a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging.

Although Peggy Mullan is stepping down as AAHSA's chair, her service to our country's elder population will continue. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on her leadership and I look forward to continuing to work with her to create a healthy, ethical, and affordable system of long-term care and aging services for America's elders.

#### TRIBUTE TO EMPLOYMENT HORIZONS

#### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Employment Horizons of Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant organization I am proud to represent! On Thursday, October 18, 2007, Employment Horizons is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Founded in 1957, Employment Horizons is the premiere, not-for-profit agency providing comprehensive employment, training and job placement services to persons with disabilities in the greater Morris County area.

Employment Horizons, formerly known as the Occupational Training Center of Morris County, was founded by a group of concerned parents who wanted to expand work and personal growth opportunities for their children with disabilities. During the 1950s and 60s, those with disabilities had very few options available to them and special education services were just evolving. Work centers, such as their packaging and assembly unit, were developed at that time to provide disabled adults with a place where they could earn money and maintain their self-respect. Over the years the agency has experienced rapid growth in the number of and breadth of services provided to meet the needs and choices of the individuals they serve, both on-site as well as in the community, as well as to meet the changing needs of the business community.

As a social business enterprise, the agency seeks to provide high-quality, competitively priced, services to the business community through their commercial operations while, at the same time, furthering their mission to "assist people with barriers to employment to achieve their individual vocational objectives and establish self-sufficiency in the community."

Over the past 50 years, Employment Horizons has established relationships with hundreds of businesses and created training and employment opportunities for thousands of individuals who require special assistance to obtain employment.

Madam Speaker, I am privileged to honor Employment Horizons. I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of Employment Horizons for their fifty years of service! Again, I offer my praise and thanks to their dedicated trustees, administra-

tion, support staff, volunteers and active parents who work tirelessly on behalf of Employment Horizons' children.

#### HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FREMONT, NEWARK AND UNION CITY

#### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker I rise today to honor the League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark and Union City. On October 27, 2007, the League will be celebrating 50 years of civic engagement with our community. Individuals who helped to shape the Tri-Cities of Fremont, Newark and Union City, after their incorporation, formed the League.

Over the last 50 years, members of the League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark and Union City have registered thousands of voters, hosted hundreds of candidate and other public forums, published and distributed voter information, and produced a community based cable program that has been actively broadcasting for over 10 years.

The League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark and Union City has stayed true to its mission and held to its motto: Democracy is not a spectator sport! The League has been a leading voice for voter service, citizen education, advocacy, and government accountability.

I applaud the League members for their commitment to empower citizens to shape better communities. The Tri-Cities, over the last 50 years, have greatly benefited from the League's activities and initiatives to make a positive difference.

I join the Tri-Cities community in thanking the members of the League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark and Union City for their untiring efforts and send best wishes for many more years of successful public service.

#### HONORING BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONER SANDRA MILLER

#### HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bucks County Commissioner Sandra Miller, a dear friend and committed public servant. Commissioner Miller has served Bucks County for over 16 years. First elected to the County Commission in 1991, Sandy was re-elected again 1995, 1999 and 2003.

As a Bucks County Commissioner, Sandra Miller was responsible for a county operating budget of over \$450 million and a workforce of 2,800 employees. Through her efforts, she was responsible for preserving over 12,000 acres of open space. She also made significant improvements to the emergency management system including the 9-1-1 emergency call system.

The Commissioner and I both attended Bucks County Community College. While I

stayed just 1 year, she finished what she started—she graduated from BCCC and went on to the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science. Sandra was the first graduate of the Community College to serve on its board of trustees. Commissioner Miller was also a pioneer—she was the first woman to serve on the Middletown Township Zoning Hearing Board. As a member of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, she is a past chair of the Democratic Caucus and was a member of the Tax Reform Committee.

Madam Speaker, Commissioner Miller is not just a great public servant; she is also a close friend. She has stood with me through tough times—times when others weren't around. She is second to none in her knowledge of Bucks County. She is a trusted advisor, a loyal friend and the dean of our county.

Madam Speaker, Commissioner Sandy Miller has led our community with distinction and her legacy is a source of great pride, both to the Miller family and to all of Bucks County. Her selfless devotion to the residents of Bucks County, Pennsylvania has been unwavering and her work to make Bucks County an even better place to live will no doubt continue after she leaves the County Commission. I urge my colleagues to join me today in thanking Commissioner Miller for a career of dedicated service as we wish her luck as she leaves public service and enters private life.

#### PRESIDENT'S VETO ON S-CHIP

#### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the SCHIP program. President Bush's veto on SCHIP has abandoned at least 24,000 children in my District alone. President Bush claims we want "gimmicks" and "funding schemes"—we don't want gimmicks we want insurance for 8.7 million uninsured children. Children like Kristofer and Felecity Famutimi from San Bernardino County, whose hospital care for sickle cell anemia crippled the family financially. Their mom, Ola had to quit her job to take care of them. SCHIP is the only reason they have pulled through.

President Bush claims that Democrats are "putting health coverage for poor children at risk—to gain political points". I am not voting for politics, I am voting for the 33,000 children in my District who are currently uninsured. Covering 800,000 children costs the same as 1 week of the war in Iraq. It is time America gets her priorities in order. I urge my colleagues to secure the futures of our Nations' poorest children by voting to override the President's veto.

#### HONORING TEMPLE BETH EL'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Temple Beth El as it celebrates its 80th anniversary. A celebration will

be held on October 19 in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Members of the community committed to principles of Reform Judaism founded Temple Beth El in 1927. The first services were held in the Paterson Building in downtown Flint. Rabbi Leo M. Franklin of Temple Beth El Detroit presided over the signing of the Articles of Association. Maurice Rosenbaum, Moses Rosenthal, Arthur Dubois, and Harry Winegarden were the first officers. The Temple Reform Sisterhood, under the direction of Mrs. James Rapport, started on June 8, 1927 and officially changed its name to Temple Beth Sisterhood when Temple Beth El was formally founded later in the same year.

In January 1935 the first permanent home for the Temple was purchased. Located at the corner of Liberty and East Second Street, it provided a place for services and religious school. The mortgage was burned on October 19, 1941 and the following year the Temple joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. It remains affiliated with this organization until today.

Under the direction of Rabbi Morton M. Applebaum the congregation expanded and soon needed a larger space. The Temple moved to the building on Ballenger Highway and the first services held there took place on April 14, 1950. The Jewish community worldwide was in mourning over the murder of six million Jews during the Holocaust. The role of the synagogue as the center of Jewish life took on new meaning and the opening of the new Temple was heralded as an example of the vibrancy of the Flint Reform Jewish Community.

To meet the needs of the community Temple Beth El moved to its present location. This move has provided opportunities to interact with its sister congregation, Beth Israel. The sanctuary and building were designed to enhance the congregation's ability to face the future and meet the challenges of tomorrow. Under the direction of Rabbi Karen Compane, the Temple's first female Rabbi, Temple Beth El has augmented its reputation as the friendly "Temple Family."

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representative to rise with me today and applaud Temple Beth El as it celebrates 80 years of spiritual vitality and dedicated community involvement. I congratulate them for their achievement and echo Dr. Max S. Hart when he prayed, "May God let his countenance shine upon all of us, and cause this Congregation to flourish and prosper for the next fifty years."

#### RECOGNIZING THE SOUTH LEXINGTON 12-YEAR-OLD ALL-STAR TEAM

#### HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. CHANDLER. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the South Lexington 12-year-old All-Star team of Lexington, Kentucky, who recently won the 2007 Cal Ripken/Major 60 World Series in Van Buren, Arizona. This phenomenal group of young people went undefeated this season, securing the World Series title in the final round against Scottsdale, Arizona.

Demonstrating admirable determination and teamwork, the 2007 South Lexington team indisputably rose to the occasion. This year's exciting win is no surprise but merely represents the hard work the players put in all season. The team was no doubt inspired by years of success by previous South Lexington Youth Baseball teams. Ten different South Lexington teams have gone to the Ripken World Series, and in the past 15 years, three of these teams returned home with the title.

I would like to congratulate Coach Kevin Payne, others who supported the team, and, in particular, the players on their success. It is an honor to have such an inspiring group of individuals represent Kentucky's youth, and I very much look forward to seeing the continued achievements of these remarkable young men in the future.

#### PROMOTION OF ARTISTIC GIVING ACT OF 2007

#### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague from Pennsylvania, Mr. ENGLISH, to introduce the Promotion of Artistic Giving Act of 2007, legislation that would amend recently enacted limitations on the donation of fractional gifts with more measured restrictions.

Fractional gifts are charitable donations to museums and galleries of partial interests in art or other collectibles that confer a substantial public benefit while permitting a tax benefit over an extended period of time. Like all qualified charitable gifts, the taxpayer receives an income tax deduction of up to 30 percent of his or her adjusted gross income for the donation to the charitable institution—in this case, museums. Fractional gifts are a valuable tool for many taxpayers due to the value of the art or collectible being donated as the value of the gift is far in excess of the amount of the available deduction. The benefit of these types of donations is that many fractional gifts would never be given to a museum without the potential donor being able to participate in an extended gift-giving program.

While well intentioned, the unnecessarily harsh provisions relating to fractional giving included in the Pension Protection Act of 2006, PPA, have effectively ceased charitable donations of partial interests in art to our Nation's museums and galleries. In trying to close a tax loophole, the PPA suffocated a time-honored method of giving that has made many of our national treasures such as the Hope Diamond and Vincent Van Gogh's "White Roses" available to the public. By rolling back some of the most restrictive provisions of the PPA, this legislation strikes the right balance between tax and charitable giving policy, addresses concerns about tax evasion, removes fractional giving from estate and gift tax provisions, and again encourages lifetime donations of art for the enjoyment of the public.

Since the passage of the PPA, fractional giving has dramatically decreased. For instance, a Santa Fe, New Mexico, museum had a potential donor of a tribal folk art collection worth approximately \$2 million withdraw an offer to give the collection to the museum.

Similarly, a potential fractional gift of an important body of work from a well-known Pennsylvania artist has been withheld as a result of the change in law.

The PPA made two dramatic changes to the income tax deduction benefits available to donors. First, donors of appreciating artwork are now limited on all contributions to the fair market value determined at the time of the donation of the initial fractional gift. Second, donors are now required to complete the fractional gift within a 10-year period. Combined, these changes negated much of the tax benefits for donating a fractional gift of valuable pieces of artwork and need to be modified. This legislation would slightly modify these provisions to require taxpayers to get a certified appraisal from the Art Advisory Board at IRS for gifts of over \$1 million and require gifts be completed during the life of the donor. These modest changes will address congressional concerns about valuation of gifts and unlimited time periods for gifts while providing the necessary incentives for these types of charitable donations.

Unfortunately, the PPA also modified estate and gift tax rules for fractional gifts. These rules have proven to be unworkable and unnecessary. The abuses of fractional giving involved the income tax deduction, not any reduction in estate or gift taxes. Modifying the estate and gift tax laws based on valuation and recapture rules applied for income tax purposes will result in unfair outcomes for taxpayers. Unless these rules are modified taxpayers of completed gifts could have estate tax liability on an asset that is no longer in their estate or have gift tax liability on gifts that were never made. For these reasons, our legislation essentially removes the changes made in PPA to estate and gift tax rules for fractional gifts.

Our Nation has a wealth of culture and creativity. Museums are the venue through which individuals can learn from, engage in, and enjoy history, culture, and art. Our bill will encourage the transfer of museum quality pieces from individuals to public institutions.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on swift passage of this important legislation.

#### HONORING LT. COL. PEDRO ALTIERY

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, among the many of our men and women who serve in Iraq are the Nurse Corps Officers who treat the ill and the wounded, giving sustenance while saving lives.

Lt. Col. Pedro Altiery is one such member of that Corps whose exceptionally meritorious service earned him the Bronze Star for his service during Operation Iraqi Freedom from March, 2005 to May, 2006.

He was described as one of the best Nurse Corps Officers who ensured the highest standards were kept in operating rooms and in providing quality care to the detainee population. He developed a highly organized, professional and clinically excellent team which could be called on in a moment's notice to be fully operational.



He set the tone for his team with his enthusiastic leadership. He wrote detailed Standards of Operating Procedure that are still used today and will be for the duration of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

I salute the great work done by Lt. Col. Altiery under exhausting conditions while maintaining his extraordinary technical skill and expertise. As well as thank him for his meritorious service to our country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast floor votes during the week of October 8, 2007, and on October 15, 2007, because of a death in the family.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 958, 960, 961, 962, and 963, and "no" on rollcall votes 956, 957, 959.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I was absent on Monday, October 15 through mid-day Tuesday, October 16, due to an illness in the family.

If I were present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 961, "yea" on rollcall vote 962, "yea" on rollcall vote 963, "no" on rollcall vote 964, "no" on rollcall vote 965, "no" on rollcall vote 966, "no" on rollcall vote 967, "yea" on rollcall vote 968, "yea" on rollcall vote 969, "yea" on rollcall vote 970, and "yea" on rollcall vote 971.

#### HONORING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF CALTRANS STRUCTURE MAINTENANCE AND INVESTIGATIONS

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the dedicated professionals of the California Department of Transportation's Office of Structure Maintenance & Investigations, which is marking its 80th anniversary of service to the people of the Golden State.

In 1927, while Babe Ruth swatted 60 home runs and Charles Lindbergh crossed the Atlantic Ocean solo, the State of California showed the wisdom and foresight to create a special branch of engineering experts to ensure the safety and reliability of its State highways and bridges.

Babe Ruth's home run mark fell in 1961 to the bat of Roger Maris and air travel over the

"pond" became a routine occurrence. All the while, California's bridge maintenance program has stood the test of time and continues to deliver on its mission of providing Californians with a safe and dependable network of bridges carrying traffic and pedestrians over rivers, canyons, railroads, highways and city streets all across the Golden State.

That effort is still paying dividends for California and the Nation. More than 24,000 State and local agency bridges in California reliably serve millions of travelers and billions of dollars of commerce because of the ongoing care provided by Structure Maintenance & Investigations staff. These structures run the gamut from the majestic San Francisco-Oakland Bay and San Diego-Coronado bridges to the historic arch spans along the scenic Monterey Coast and the tens of thousands of unassuming concrete, steel and timber bridges dotting the California landscape.

The safety and reliability of California's bridges has been instrumental in fueling one of the world's largest economies. More than 160 million vehicle trips are recorded on California's transportation system each day.

Caltrans Structure Maintenance & Investigations engineering personnel have conducted more than 650,000 routine inspections and thousands of special hydraulic, steel and underwater bridge inspections since 1927. They look for any signs of deterioration, fatigue or distress in bridge decks, superstructures and substructures, and the office has initiated tens of millions of dollars in repairs to ensure the safety and structural integrity of each public agency bridge in California.

Thanks to the ongoing dedication of the Structure Maintenance & Investigations professionals no public agency bridge in California has ever collapsed due to neglect. The bridge inspection program pioneered by Structure Maintenance & Investigations has become the model for transportation agencies around the Nation and the world.

As part of its ongoing bridge maintenance program, Structure Maintenance & Investigations maintains a library of more than one million documents, some dating back more than 100 years, documenting the history of each public agency bridge in California.

Structure Maintenance & Investigations personnel have responded in a timely and heroic fashion to a myriad of natural and manmade disasters to protect public safety and complete any needed repairs to California's transportation system. While their efforts have been well chronicled in major disasters such as the 1989 Loma Prieta and 1994 Northridge earthquakes, SM&I personnel routinely answer the call to protect public safety. Such a case occurred last year in California's Sonoma County where two engineers risked their own safety to inspect the Highway 128 bridge over the rampaging Russian River near Guerneville. The engineers determined that the floodwaters had compromised the integrity of the bridge. They closed the structure and initiated a project that resulted in construction of a new bridge.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate for us to convey to all the dedicated professionals at the California Department of Transportation Office of Structure Maintenance & Investigations the thanks of a grateful state for years of dedicated service ensuring the safety and reliability of our transportation system.

#### HONORING ROSAMOND BEATRICE OCTOBER

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, Rosamond Beatrice October is 100 years old and the United States was fortunate to woo her from her native Guyana. She was born there on November 6, 1907 and has lived through perhaps the most remarkable age in the world's history.

In 1928 she and William October were married and had two children before they adopted several more. She was a successful caterer in Guyana and in 1973, at an age when most people have retired; she came to America and continued her successful catering operations.

She is a grandmother of 12 and great grandmother of 14, and aunt of several nieces and nephews. She lives with her daughter, Claudette Cox, in the Bronx and is the oldest member of the Eastchester Presbyterian Church. She attributes her long life to her faith and trust in God. And we thank God for allowing Mrs. October to remain with us and share her gifts of love and experience with us all.

I offer her my sincere wishes for the happiest of birthdays and congratulate her for a long and successful life.

#### THE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Free Flow of Information Act, H.R. 2102, legislation that would prevent journalists from being forced to reveal their confidential sources in legal proceedings.

This important bill has strong bipartisan support and the endorsement of countless news organizations and the Newspaper Association of America.

The "press shield" is critical to the functioning of our democracy. Compelling reporters to testify and reveal the identity of confidential sources hinders the free flow of information. Many people with important information about government wrongdoing would rather stay quiet than reveal their identities. Sometimes the only way a reporter can gain access to a source's information, and bring it to the public's attention, is by guaranteeing that source confidentiality.

H.R. 2102 strikes a common sense balance between the public's need for information and fair justice. It would compel reporters to reveal the identity of a source if the court finds it necessary to prevent "imminent and actual harm to national security" or "imminent death or significant bodily harm."

The First Amendment states that, "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press." The Founding Fathers clearly envisioned a free press that would enable the electorate to make informed decisions and hold the government in check. That's precisely what this bill would do.



I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2012 and protect the free press that our Founders envisioned.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED  
CAREER OF REPRESENTATIVE  
LOUIS W. STOKES

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a former Member of this body, Louis W. Stokes, for his contributions both in service to our Nation and to the State of Ohio. Representative Stokes has made significant strides in increasing benefits to veterans in the Cleveland area, and through his work on the Appropriations Committee, he brought significant increases in revenue to the Cleveland's East Side. He was recently inaugurated into the Karamu House Hall of Fame for his contributions to the continued legacy of Cleveland's black settlement house and theatre.

Louis Stokes was born in Cleveland and grew up in one of the Nation's first federally funded housing projects, the Outhwaite Homes. He served in the Army during World War II, attended Western Reserve University and Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, and began practicing law in Cleveland in 1953. In 1968, Stokes argued the seminal "stop and frisk" Terry v. Ohio case in front of the United States Supreme Court. He was elected to the House in 1968, representing the 21st District and then the newly created 11th District, both on Cleveland's East Side. He was Chairman of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, charged with investigating the murders of President John F. Kennedy and civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. He also served on the House committee that investigated the Iran-Contra Affair and was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus. By the time of his retirement in 1999, Stokes had represented the people of Cleveland for nearly 30 years. He was dean of the Ohio delegation and one of the most senior members of this body.

Madam Speaker, Louis Stokes' contributions to public life have been celebrated in many ways, not least of which is the Louis W. Stokes Health Policy Lecture at Meharry Medical College in Nashville. Today, October 17, 2007, Representative Stokes was honored at Meharry for his pioneering contributions to the field of health policy and law. And today I rise to extend my heartfelt congratulations and appreciation to Louis Stokes, to celebrate his long career of public service and to encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring him. May his words inspire new generations of leaders to follow in his footsteps and serve their country.

"THE WAR" AS OPINED BY WINSTON GROOM OF POINT CLEAR, ALABAMA

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, earlier this week one of my constituents—nationally-re-

nowned author and historian, Winston Groom—wrote an op-ed piece for the Mobile Press-Register offering at least one theory as to why the reviews of Ken Burns' recent documentary series, "The War," have been panned by several of America's leading and supposedly "most respected" national publications.

As you may know, "The War" recently aired throughout the Nation on PBS. While admitting that the "Second World War was fought in thousands of places, too many for any one accounting," Mr. Burns and his extraordinarily talented team tell the story of four American towns and how some of the citizens from those towns experienced and remember "The War."

The personal accounts of these men and women in their own unique dialects and accents tell an important and powerful story of World War II and the men and women that Tom Brokaw, among others, has deemed "The Greatest Generation."

This documentary shows the significant sacrifices made by the brave men and women of the American military, as well as the millions of American families whose loved ones were fighting the forces of evil during the Second World War.

As Mr. Groom so eloquently explains in his article, the underlying complaint of "The War," shared by many in the mainstream media who reviewed the film, is "grounded in the new liberal fad of 'moral relativism'" and self-hatred. Unbelievably, some of these critics appear to believe that Mr. Burns' documentary was simply too "pro-American" and not sympathetic enough to the Germans and the Japanese.

After watching this fascinating documentary with my wife and children, I, personally, could not be more proud to be an American. Moreover, I believe this film should be required watching in every school in America.

Today, Madam Speaker, I rise to ask that this op-ed piece be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in its entirety, for I believe Winston Groom may be on to something:

HATCHET JOB ON "THE WAR"

(By Winston Groom)

Many of you who enjoyed Ken Burns' "The War" may or may not be surprised that much of the mainstream media trashed the series.

At the simplest level, their complaints illustrate the common literary fallacy in which the critic reviews not the film (or book) that was written, but the one that he wanted to see written. But this is merely one technique of doing a hatchet job.

The underlying complaint against Burns' film by such revered organs as "The New York Times", "The New Yorker", "Slate" magazine, etc., is grounded in the new liberal fad of "moral relativism" or "moral equivalency," a doctrine that seeks to have us believe that in the real world, there are in fact no "good guys" or "bad guys."

Instead, everything is "relative" (i.e. Oh, poor Adolf. He was simply misunderstood.).

Thus, Alessandra Stanley of the Times felt compelled to inform her readers that, "Examining a global war from the perspective of only one belligerent is rarely a good idea."

I myself had a similar run-in with that kind of thinking when the Times trashed my history "1942: the Year That Tried Men's Souls," so I know whereof I speak.

In that instance, the Times for some reason assigned the hatchet job to its theater editor, who carped that I was "cheerleading"

for America and "conducting a pep rally for the Allies." It made me wonder just who she wanted me to cheer for—Hitler? Tojo? Or were we all of us—Japan, Germany, America, England, Russia—equally at fault for the war?

In the online magazine "Slate", Beverly Gage was constrained to label "The War" "manipulative, nostalgic and nationalistic," and lamented that it offered "no commentary from the German or Japanese" side.

To be fair, she also complained that it offered no commentary from the British or Canadians, to which she might also have added that we didn't hear about the Norwegians or the Peruvians—or the Ugandans, for all it matters.

The point is, that was not what the film was about. It was about America and Americans in World War II, as was plainly stated at the beginning of each episode. To be fair again, Ms. Gage acknowledges this, or, in her words, "Burns admits this," but then she goes on to complain about it anyway.

Ms. Gage also spears the film for offering "fantastically sentimental stuff—Ken Burns at his most indulgent."

I, for one, didn't see anything particularly sentimental about pictures of dead American Marines floating face down on the beaches of Tarawa or being carted off the battlefield.

Ms. Gage also hints in her review that the story told by Mobile's Eugene Sledge about some Marines pulling gold teeth from dying Japanese soldiers smacks of American racism, since in the European Theater, the absence of that unpleasant custom presumably denied similarly situated Germans their experience of a lifetime.

In The New Yorker, Nancy Franklin's objection, rather than moral relativism, is that "The War" is just plain bad film-making.

"They've taken a subject that is inexhaustible and made it merely exhausting," she writes, before going on to complain about the sound track and narration and that a lot of the footage Burns selected had been used before—as if Burns, being unable to conjure up some stash of unused footage, was somehow obligated to use old bad footage instead.

She also found tedious Burns' style of using real participants in the war to describe their experiences rather than, one supposes, using analysts, historians and politicians. Myself, I rather enjoyed hearing from such contributors as Dwain Luce, Sid and Katherine Phillips, Maurice Bell, Willie Rushton and others who actually lived it.

As Ms. Stanley writes in her review, "'The War' gives generous voice to a wide variety of voices, but they are all American voices," which, she complains, "is the only tale Burns wants to tell."

The strange implication here is that surely Burns could have dug up a Hiroshima survivor or a fugitive Nazi SS man to tell his side of the story—or better yet, a Kamikaze pilot.

What really underlies this "moral relativism" is the fetish of self-hatred that has become so pervasive in the mainstream media and the halls of academia. Whatever the issue, "America is at least no better than the rest of them, and probably worse" is their mantra, and anything that smacks of patriotism is automatically suspect.

Heaven help us if this had been the bunch in Philadelphia on the Fourth of July, 1776, when they were trying to find people to sign the Declaration of Independence.

HONORING CAPTAIN JOAN R.  
DAVIS

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, Captain Joan R. Davis was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal, among other awards, for her accomplishments as Head Nurse in Camp Bucca, Iraq.

There she was responsible for the comprehensive health care needs and provision of health care to more than 8,600 detainees. To accomplish this she was responsible for the oversight of 10 officers and 75 enlisted personnel.

Among her many duties was the assessment, planning, and implementation and evaluation of detainees at the facility. She provided consultations with other members of the allied health care team on the highly complex comprehensive nursing care of the diabetic population.

She also served as liaison with forward Operating Base and Theater Internment Facilities.

We are fortunate to have such an individual with us here in the Bronx, as a Registered Nurse at Montefiore Medical Center. I congratulate her for her dedicated service to our country and for her equally dedicated service at MMC.

**RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING  
THE UNITED STATES WOMEN'S  
NATIONAL SOCCER TEAM ON ITS  
PERFORMANCE AT THE 2007 FIFA  
WOMEN'S WORLD CUP**

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the United States Women's National Soccer Team on its recent performance at the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup in China.

I am pleased to be introducing this resolution with the support of my colleagues Mrs. BONO, Mr. WALSH, Mrs. CAPPS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. ARCURI, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WATSON and Mr. TOWNS.

In the spirit of international goodwill, the women of our National Soccer Team competed with the elite women of Norway, Nigeria, England, and Sweden exhibiting sportsmanship and determination every moment on and off the field. Furthermore, finishing in the semifinals, the team maintained its record as being the only country to finish in the top 3 in all 5 Women's World Cup tournaments that have been contested.

Their contribution to American female athletics is a testament to the legacy of Title IX, now in its 35th year, as well as the dedication and hard work of the players, coaches, and trainers. The support of women's soccer fans around the globe for the games of the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup anticipates the coming 2008 Summer Olympics and the 2009

opening of a women's professional soccer league in the United States.

Madam Speaker, I commend the United States Women's National Soccer Team and ask my colleagues to join me in affirming the importance of athletic participation for young women and men across our Nation.

**RECOGNITION OF THE 2007  
OKALOOSA COUNTY FARM FAM-  
ILY OF THE YEAR**

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of the Gerald Brooks family for being selected the 2007 Okaloosa County Farm Family of the Year and for their contributions to the agricultural development of Baker, a city in my district in northwest Florida.

For over 35 years, Gerald and his wife Mary have been actively involved in farming in northwest Florida. Gerald was born and raised on the farm and while being one of nine children, he was the only child who stayed in farming. The family business began around 1930, when Gerald's grandparents relocated from Evergreen, Alabama to Okaloosa County. They moved to the farm's present location in 1940. Sharecropping corn with his grandfather during his last year of high school helped to groom young Gerald for one day taking over the family farm.

After serving in the United States Army from 1969 to 1971, Gerald began farming full time. He demonstrated his tremendous work ethic in all aspects of farming. He has worked tirelessly to improve the agricultural and farming practices for his community by serving on the Farm Bureau of Directors and the Okaloosa County Extension Advisory Committee for several years. Gerald continues to assist the local Extension office by offering his land for on-farm demonstrations, which includes a current project with a soybean Asian rust plot.

Throughout the years, the Brooks family farm has produced cotton, peanuts, soybeans, wheat, and the largest selection of fresh vegetables in the area. Gerald personally plans, plants, and manages all growing of the crops in addition to other day-to-day operations on the farm, while his sister, Kathy, oversees the harvesting and marketing of the crops.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I would like to offer my sincere commendation to a family that is a role model for all of us. A deep sense of civic contribution and values has been instilled through all the generations of the Gerald Brooks family. It is my hope that this family tradition continues for many more generations.

**TRIBUTE TO FAUNE RIGGIN**

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Faune Riggins on being

recognized as one of the top ten programmers in small market radio in America. As Program and News Director at KZIM-KSIM radio in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, Faune has brought passion, hard work and innovative ideas to her job. Her talented work has made an enduring impact on the communities which comprise the KZIM-KSIM radio listening area.

Faune understands the importance of radio. Radio is an essential part of the lives of many Americans. It is more than just an information vehicle or advertising tool—it connects our communities. Since joining KZIM-KSIM, Faune has worked tirelessly to ensure listeners remain informed and connected.

Faune's successes, both in and out of the radio industry, have been observed and duplicated by the staff at KZIM-KSIM. Her passion and commitment to excellence continues to inspire others to dedicate themselves to the same ideals. Not only is Faune a true professional, she remains a valued member of the Cape Girardeau Community by involving herself in charities and lending a helping hand to others.

Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Faune Riggins on this great achievement. I ask that you join me along with Faune's family, friends and listeners to congratulate her on this momentous occasion and to wish her a rewarding and productive future.

**MALVERN FEDERAL SAVINGS  
BANK 120TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Malvern Federal Savings Bank as it celebrates its 120th Anniversary this year. Malvern Federal Savings Bank, first known as the Malvern and Duffryn Mawr Building and Loan Association, opened its doors in 1887 at King Street and Warren Avenue in Malvern, PA. The Bank moved to new locations on Malvern's King Street in both 1938 and 1955, and to nearby Paoli in 1957. The Bank headquarters, which underwent an extensive renovation in 2004, remains in Paoli today. The institution has continued to expand through the opening of multiple financial centers and today has offices in Paoli, Berwyn, Malvern, Westtown, Lionville, Exton and South Coventry.

The community bank has dedicated itself through the years to fulfilling the financial needs of people and businesses throughout Chester County, Pennsylvania and the surrounding areas. For 120 years, Malvern Federal Savings Bank has remained a mutual savings bank owned by its depositors, thus ensuring that it always meets the needs of the community first. The Bank prides itself on staying active in the community, donating time and funds to numerous local events and fundraisers each year, as a way to give back to residents and businesses that have been supportive for so many decades.

Ron Anderson currently serves as the Bank's president and chief financial officer and F. Claire Hughes, Jr. as the chairman. Malvern Federal Savings Bank is one of the oldest banks based in Chester County and continues to offer numerous services to its customers and community.

I know all my colleagues join me today in congratulating the Malvern Federal Savings Bank as it celebrates its 120th Anniversary and continues its proud tradition of community involvement, business excellence, and superior customer service.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE  
550TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MORAVIAN  
CHURCH IN  
GNADENHUTTEN, OHIO

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the dedicated people of the Moravian Church of Gnadenhutten, Ohio celebrates the 550th anniversary of the Moravian Church with great joy; and

Whereas, this occasion is a time to look back at the origins of our great state with the founding of the first settlement in Ohio by missionary David Zeisberger amongst the Le Nape Indians in 1772; and

Whereas, the Moravian Church continues as the oldest Protestant denomination in existence; and

Whereas, the Moravian Church have demonstrated excellence in its calling as a church, and we are proud to have it in the great state of Ohio and our Nation; be it

*Resolved*, That along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the congregation for their unwavering commitment, recognizing that all great achievements come from great dedication. With great appreciation and respect, we recognize the tremendous impact this congregation has had in the community and in the lives of those people they have touched.

COMMENDING NASA LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 16, 2007*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 222, which honors the NASA Langley Research Center on its 90th Anniversary. Started in 1917 as the nation's first aeronautical research laboratory, NASA Langley has become a world leader in aeronautics research and has led the charge in developing technology to improve the field of aeronautics. NASA Langley has worked to improve aircraft landing systems, the shape of aircraft wings, and the safety of hypersonic flight. NASA Langley also tests the configuration of many commercial and military aircraft models in its unique wind tunnel system. Finally, the Center is conducting work to enable pilots to better land in bad weather through the use of satellite and global positioning information. These improvements have led and will continue to lead to critical advances in both commercial and military aircraft. The increased safety resulting from these advances benefits us all.

NASA Langley has also played a key role in furthering space exploration. From the first manned space exploration mission to sending landers and rovers to Mars, NASA Langley has made significant contributions to make these journeys possible. NASA Langley trained the original seven astronauts who flew with the Mercury 7 mission—the first national manned space flight. The Center also led the Viking mission to Mars—the first successful U.S. to that planet. After the Columbia shuttle tragedy in 2003, NASA Langley performed critical work to determine how to return shuttles safely to space, including conducting research in aero-thermodynamics and structures and materials used in space shuttle technology. These missions have helped to keep the U.S. at the forefront of space exploration.

NASA Langley is also doing its part to get the next generation prepared and excited about working for NASA. Through its education programs, NASA reaches out to students to get them involved and excited about the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (or STEM).

I would like to thank NASA for its continued recognition of NASA Langley as a viable, thriving part of the NASA community. I would also like to thank the individuals who have worked and who are currently working at NASA Langley for their sustained efforts in making the Center a world leader in the aeronautics and space exploration fields. Finally, I would like to recognize the leadership of my former colleague, the late Representative Jo Ann Davis, on this resolution. Congresswoman Davis was a tireless champion for NASA Langley and will certainly be missed. It is my hope that the Virginia delegation can continue this strong support for NASA Langley and look forward to more anniversaries to come.

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS ON  
TRANSGENDER ISSUES

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, on October 9 I delivered a speech in the House regarding, among other things, my involvement in advocating for civil rights protections for transgender individuals. Following those remarks, I inadvertently failed to submit for the RECORD several documents to which I had made reference during the speech, specifically excerpts from testimony I gave before an Education and Labor Committee subcommittee last month in support of including full transgender protection in the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, and from two other speeches addressing transgender issues that I offered during previous debates on the House floor. In order to give a fuller picture of my views on these important topics, I ask that the documents be printed here.

EXCERPT FROM TESTIMONY OF U.S. REP. BARNEY FRANK, SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT, LABOR AND PENSIONS, "THE EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT, H.R. 2015," SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. . . . And then we have the issue that my colleague so ably discussed of the transgender—and I understand that this is a new issue for people. There are people who were born with the

physical characteristics of one sex who strongly identify with the other. Some of them have a physical change, some of them don't. Let me make a plea to all of my colleagues—these are people—think what it must be like to be born with that set of feelings. Think what it must be like, think what stress—what agony you go through—to defy society's conventions to the extent where you make that kind of a statement. This is something people are driven to do. Is there any reason why any of us should make the lives of those people more difficult than they already are?

Obviously these are people who are coping and things are getting better. Things are better in many ways. When I was younger, a lot of things were difficult that are less difficult today. But what we say here is if someone has these feelings—if someone is born with one set of characteristics and strongly identifies the other way—should you fire him? You deny him a promotion? You say no matter how good your job is, that makes me uneasy so out you go. That we say in here you can make rules that those people have to abide by. That they dress in a gender consistent way. . . .

There is another issue we . . . have to talk about. What happens when they're all in the shower together—you know you can segregate bathrooms, but in showers it's a little difficult. This says no, people don't have the right to go into open places where people are unclothed in a way that's to embarrass people. That we talk about an accommodation, again people will say, "well you didn't do that well enough." There's room for some fine-tuning there, but on a fundamental principle—particularly for those people who are themselves made the most uneasy by the transgender issue—and I must say having worked with a lot of transgender people, I would tell my friends you get over it pretty quickly. Because what you find out is you're dealing with human beings like all the rest of us—normal human beings who have the same emotions and needs and strengths and weaknesses all of us have. But for those who are not yet at the point of comfort with them, do we really feel driven to make life harder for these people?

By the way, I just want to deal with this choice issue. No one I believe in the history of the world has said, "you know what, life's too easy. I think although I was born a woman I'm going to act like a man. I think that would be a real lark. I think I'll just go through life that way and invite physical abuse and invite all kinds of ridicule." So that's all we're saying. And let me say here—a final appeal—if there's any institution that ought to understand this it's here. Let me tell you what I know. This institution—we as Members—are very well served by a large number of gay and lesbian employees. And many of my colleagues on the Republican side know that and have, to their credit, employed them.

I wouldn't have said this a couple of years ago, but after the recent incident it's now public. For years the Clerk of this House was a gay man, a Republican named Jeff Trandahl, whose orientation became public because he behaved in a very honorable and admired way in the issue of our former colleague, Mr. Foley. And the Ethics Committee saluted Mr. Trandahl. You know, Jeff Trandahl is an example and I know Jeff well and he's a friend whom I respect and admire and given the role he played, how much easier it would have been—maybe some troubles could have been avoided if there were legal protections that he and others would have had so they would not be subject to prejudice.

I'll acknowledge—yes—as Mike Carney's example will show and my own example will show—people say "well you know some

of these gay people are misbehaving." Yeah, living a life that you were trying to hide from others is not a prescription for model behavior. And you do dumb things in the closet sometimes. It's not an excuse. It's your fault when you do them. But it's in society's interest to diminish that pressure. And you can do that today. Thank you.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 4200, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005—House of Representatives—September 28, 2004—Excerpt From Debate on Hate Crimes Legislation

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. This bill criminalizes actions that consist of violence against individuals. It allows the Attorney General to enter under certain limited circumstances, if it is a Federal crime of violence under the Federal U.S. Code. It allows certain other things if there is an act of bodily injury or an attempt to cause bodily injury. Nothing in here criminalizes speech. In fact, when people start talking about Sweden, it is a pretty good indication that they do not have anything to talk about with regard to the law that we are voting on in America. By the way, America, unlike Sweden, has a first amendment, and the Supreme Court would have banned that if anybody tried to.

Finally, to refute that argument, which is without any merit whatsoever; I mean, sometimes we get close questions here. That one has no merit. There is nothing remotely in this bill that threatens anybody's speech. But here is the proof of it, and it also is a sign of the gross inconsistency of those on the other side. We are not starting down any path today, except the path of their illogic. What we are doing is adding a category to existing Federal categories. There are already on the books laws that create hate crimes. It is not the case that every crime is treated equally.

By the way, there was one category of people, and violence against them is much more seriously treated than violence against anybody else. If you are so offended by that, where is your motion to amend the law and take away the statute that says it is a super Federal crime to assault one of us. If a Member of Congress and a private citizen are walking down the street and they are both assaulted, it is a much more serious crime against the Member of Congress. Where is your consistency? If you mean what you say, why have you not gone after that, or is it okay if you are protected, Madam Speaker?

And then we have race on the books, and we have religion. Has anybody ever found a case where they say, well, once you do this, someone's free speech will be impugned? Are you telling me there are no racists in America? Are you telling me that no one makes racially offensive remarks? People do. And none of them, none of them have ever been prosecuted for hate speech.

So, in fact, you deny the reality, Madam Speaker, when people say this, that there are already on the books certain categories that are treated as hate crimes. None of them have led to there being any impugning of people's free speech.

Then the question is, why do we want to do this? In the first place, no one is saying that if you were violently assaulted, you will not be protected by the law. Why do we add an additional element if it is a hate crime? And here is the reason: When people are going out and singling out people because of their race or their color; and, by the way, if people who are white are being assaulted by people of another race because of their race, that is a hate crime, and it ought to be treated as

such. I do not share the view that that is a bad thing. It is wrong for thugs to tyrannize people because of that, and it is worse than another crime for this reason.

If some individual is walking down the street and is randomly assaulted, he or she is traumatized. But if another individual is singled out because of her race or religion or sexual orientation or gender, then it is not simply the individual who has been assaulted but others who share that characteristic who are put in fear.

We do have a particular problem. The gentleman said, well, you are saying gender instead of sex. Yes, there are people who are transgendered in our society. They are sadly often victimized. They are often victims of violence. Yes, I think it is a good idea to come to their aid. And if the gentleman thinks it is a mistake to go to the aid of people who are transgendered who are more often than others victimized and who are put in fear for that, then we do disagree, and I welcome the chance to vote on it.

CHILDREN'S SAFETY ACT OF 2005—House of Representatives—September 14, 2005—Excerpt From Discussion of Hate Crimes Legislation

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Chairman, I want to address some of the misconceptions that arise when we deal with this legislation. I and many of the strongest proponents of hate crimes legislation are also among the strongest proponents of free expression in this House, and I want to be very clear. A belief in free expression means the belief in the right of obnoxious people to say hateful things. This is not an effort to prevent people from engaging in racist or homophobic or sexist insults. I regard that to be a very unpleasant but fully constitutionally protected practice, and there have been mistaken assertions in this.

There was in fact a case in Philadelphia which lent itself to the interpretation that unpleasant speech was being prosecuted. That case was thrown out of court, and it was wrong. Nothing in this law in any way, this amendment that the gentleman from Michigan, who happens to be one of the greatest defenders of freedom of expression in the history of Congress, nothing in this amendment impinges in any way on anybody's right to say or write anything they want.

What it says is that if you commit an act which is otherwise a crime, because the predicate for this is that you have to commit a physical act which would be a crime against a person or property, but generally against a person, that it becomes an aggravating factor if it is demonstrated to be motivated, and the courts have made it clear that you have to demonstrate this is an element of the crime in some way, you must demonstrate that it was motivated by prejudice.

Now the argument is, well, why is one kind of crime worse than any other? Well, in fact, of course, our laws, State and Federal, are replete with examples where the exact same act is treated more harshly depending on the motivation. We have laws that particularly single out crimes against the elderly. We have laws that say if you desecrate one kind of property it is worse than if you desecrate another.

Here is the rationale for this. If an individual is assaulted and the individual chosen for the assault was chosen randomly, that is a very serious problem for that individual, and the crime ought to be punished and the individual protected. But where individuals are singled out for assault because of their race, because of their sexual orientation, be-

cause of their gender or identity, and transgendered people are among those who have been most recently viciously and violently attacked, it is not simply the victim of the violent assault who is assaulted. Other people in that vicinity, in that area, who share those characteristics, are also put in fear. And it is legitimate for us to say that when you have individuals being singled out because of a certain characteristic, this becomes a crime that transcends the assault against the individual. It does not mean we do not protect the individual. It means that we go beyond that.

Now there are people who say, look, if you hit anybody, it is exactly the same thing. I doubt their sincerity, Mr. Chairman. Because, as I understand it, under Federal law, if one of us were to be walking out in the street with a private citizen and we were both assaulted, the individual assaulting us has committed a greater crime than the individual assaulting a private citizen. That is, we have one category of hate crimes in that it is a more serious crime to assault a Member of Congress.

Now, by the way, it is obviously not in any way constitutionally inappropriate to denounce Members of Congress. We all know that. So anyone who thinks that when you have enhanced a sentencing by singling out an individual you have immunized him or her from criticism, just look at us. I do not know anybody who is proposing that we get rid of that.

So here is what we are dealing with. We are dealing with a law which in no way impinges on anyone's freedom of expression and says that when individuals are physically harmed in part because of who they are that others who share that characteristic are also put in fear, and that is a way to try to diminish that form of activity.

I should add, too, that we have recently seen more of an outbreak of this sort of violence against people who are transgendered, and it is important for us to come to people's aid . . .

## A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IN HOLMES COUNTY, OHIO

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the Holmes County Red Cross celebrates its 90th birthday with great joy; and

Whereas, the Holmes County Red Cross provides vital services to the residents of Holmes County; and

Whereas, services such as Health and Safety, Disaster Services, Armed Forces Emergency Services, and Blood Services are provided; and

Whereas, these services provide communication, training and education; be it

*Resolved*, That along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate you on your 90th Birthday. With great appreciation and respect, we recognize the tremendous impact the Holmes County Red Cross has had in the community and in the lives of those people you have touched.

HONORING LONG BEACH  
CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly honor the Long Beach Unified School District. While we work to reauthorize the No Child Left Behind Act to improve access to quality education for all of America's children, the Long Beach Unified School District shines as an example of what we hope to accomplish.

This district is California's third largest and is setting an example for districts across the nation to follow, by showing that all students, no matter their background, history, or personal obstacles, can achieve their full potential. It was a finalist for this year's Broad Prize for Urban Education, which is a great honor. That accomplishment is all the more amazing because Long Beach, which won the top prize in 2003, is the only former winner to make it back into the finals.

Under the leadership of Superintendent Chris Steinhauser, Long Beach is showing what public schools can do. Superintendent Steinhauser works with parents, teachers, board members, and other community members to create a district that has a "team feeling." The effect is a system that demands results and delivers solutions to the many problems that districts face.

The "Long Beach Way" puts into practice the best of school reform, whether homegrown or from somewhere else. Innovative programs such as Intervention Counselors, who work with high school students at risk of failing, and Algebra ABCD, which provides additional supports that allow students to achieve at high levels, are just two of the exemplary programs that Long Beach Unified provides for its 90,000 diverse students.

I commend the hard working teachers and administrators of Long Beach for their contributions and commitment. It is also important to recognize the support from parents and the community. These combined efforts have been instrumental in ensuring a quality education for all children within the district. I am proud to represent and honor Long Beach Unified School District.

NATIONAL MALL REVITALIZATION  
AND DESIGNATION ACT OF 2007

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Mall Revitalization and Designation Act of 2007. The National Mall is one of Washington's best known and most treasured sites, but also is the District's most neglected and undervalued. The Mall lacks everything that a majestic natural wonder deserves, from an official identity to necessary amenities. My bill (1) authorizes the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) to officially designate and expand the boundaries of the Mall and (2) requires the Secretary of the Interior to submit a plan to en-

hance visitor enjoyment and cultural experiences within 180 days of passage of the bill.

I worked closely with NCPC and other agencies in framing the bill. It would give the NCPC the responsibility and the necessary flexibility to designate the Mall area for the first time since its creation and to expand the Mall area when appropriate. The bill requires the NCPC, to accommodate future commemorative works and cultural institutions, working with key federal and local agencies, and with participation from the public and recognized national leaders in culture and development.

Frustrated at continually fighting off proposals for new monuments, museums, and memorials, on the crowded Mall space, I asked the NCPC to devise a Mall preservation plan 5 years ago. In 2003, Congress amended the Commemorative Works Act to enact the NCPC's designation of a no-build zone where no new memorials can be built. This action was helpful in quelling some but by no means all of the demand from groups and individuals for placement on what they view as the Mall. The bill spells out the needed authority to preserve the no-build zone while expanding the mall to accommodate commemorative works.

The NCPC and the Commission on Fine Arts (FAC) are working on the National Capital Framework Plan and already have shown they can identify sites near the existing Mall which are suitable for new memorials, including East Potomac Park, a part of the Mall area that is seldom viewed as integral to the more familiar space between the Capitol and the Lincoln Memorial; Banneker Overlook, the grounds around RFK Stadium, the Kennedy Center Plaza site and the new South Capitol gateways. Five new prestigious memorials are scheduled for such sites, including the Eisenhower Memorial and the U.S. Air Force Memorial.

I appreciate that NCPC and the FAC work closely with the District of Columbia in designating off-Mall sites for new monuments. The District welcomes the expanded Mall into appropriate neighborhoods, enhancing the work of the District of Columbia government and local organizations such as Cultural Tourism that offer historic tours of District neighborhoods in developing the tourism that is vital to the city's economy. Additional Mall sites for various monuments also complement the creation of entire new neighborhoods now underway near the Mall particularly the District's redevelopment of the Southwest waterfront and my own work on the Southeast Federal Center, now known as The Yards, that is to becoming a mixed use public-private development and waterfront park.

A second and important goal of the bill is to make the Mall a living, breathing, active place where things happen and visitors can be comfortable. The bill seeks to achieve this vibrancy by requiring the Secretary of the Interior to submit a plan, in consultation with the appropriate Federal agencies, and leaders in culture and development and the public, to "enhance visitor enjoyment, amenities, cultural experiences in and the vitality of (the National Mall)." Bordered by world class cultural institutions, the Mall itself has been reduced to a lawn with a only a few—too few ordinary benches and a couple of fast food restaurants. The Mall lacks the most basic amenities appropriate to such an area including restrooms, shelter and informal places to gather and interesting places to eat. When it rains, there

are no places to stay dry on the Mall and when the humidity reaches sky high, there are few places to rest and have a cold drink. Nevertheless, in writing this bill I was compelled to recognize today's reality that funds to make the Mall the 21st century destination it deserves to become are simply not available, and will not become available in the near future until the deficit and other priorities make room. Yet, the Mall needs a total makeover for the 21st century to be worthy of L'Enfant's vision for the city he planned and the MacMillan Plan that is largely responsible for the space between the Capitol and the Lincoln Memorial that is known today as the Mall. However, we must move now to begin to do all we can to rescue this space from its present dull and uninviting condition, damaged by heavy use and often used as no more than a pass-through, despite its magnificent potential. With the necessary imagination, a plan to make Mall a welcoming place with cultural and other amenities envisioned by the bill is achievable now.

The Mall Designation and Revitalization Act is the first step in an effort to begin to give the Mall its due after decades of neglect and indifference. The bill begins at the beginning, defining for the first time what we mean by the Mall, allowing for expansion of its natural contours, and taking the first steps to breathe life into a space that is meant for people to enjoy.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING 70TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
POMERENE HOSPITAL IN  
MILLERSBURG, OHIO

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Pomerene Hospital celebrates the 70th anniversary with great joy; and

Whereas, Pomerene Hospital cares for the community's health through communication and trust; and

Whereas, the Hospital has grown from a staff of 10 physicians and continues to grow while serving Holmes County; be it

*Resolved*, That along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate you on your 70th Anniversary. With great appreciation and respect, we recognize the tremendous impact this hospital has had in the community and in the lives of those people you have touched.

TRIBUTE TO LILLIE MAE WHITE  
JOHNSON

**HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Ms. KILPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today not only as a Member of Congress, but as Chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus, to pay tribute to an outstanding Texan and human being, Mrs. Lillie Mae White Johnson, who passed away on Monday, October 15, 2007. Mrs. Johnson was a woman of

character, compassion, and courage, and she will be mourned by a large circle of family, friends and admirers.

She was born January 9, 1911 in Waco, Texas. The youngest of six children born to Thomas and Sarah Burks White, she was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Edward Johnson, and siblings Beulah White Bridgewater, Eliza White Ashford, Ella White Glasker, George White and Arthur White.

Mrs. Johnson was an honor graduate of AJ Moore High School, which is located in Waco, Texas in 1929 and attended Central State Business College. She married Edward Johnson in 1931 and was a faithful and devoted wife for almost 50 years. To this marriage, four children were born; three daughters and one son. After her husband's death in 1981, she moved to Grand Prairie, Texas and made her home with her oldest daughter, Sallye Moore.

At an early age, Mrs. Johnson joined the Chapel Hill Baptist Church in Waco, Texas and later joined the Toliver Chapel Baptist Church. They were loyal and faithful members for almost 50 years. As a member of Toliver Chapel Baptist, she was active in the Women's Mission, sang in the choir, and assisted with many children's activities.

Mrs. Johnson loved traveling. In addition to residing in Texas, she lived in Florida and California while her husband served in the United States Navy and pursued his career in civil service for the United States Department of Veteran Affairs.

Mrs. Johnson was raised in a spiritually influenced home with strong family values shared with her children. Her children, grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews are blessed to have been influenced by her deep Christian faith and joyous disposition. She was a compassionate person who loved to spend time with her children and their families. Her family will deeply miss her smile, her personal warmth, and thoughtful ways. For many years, Mrs. Johnson hosted large family dinners and catered to her family member's individual preferences.

She was a founding and active member in the Mamie Robinson Social and Family Charity Club until she relocated to Grand Prairie, Texas. The Waco News Tribune in 1979 and the Delta Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in 1980 named Mrs. Johnson "Mother of the Year."

After moving to Grand Prairie in 1981, she joined St. John Baptist Church. As a member of St. John, Mrs. Johnson was active in the Senior Women's Ministry, Ruth and Doris Ministry, Mission Choir, Generations Ministry and Adult Sunday School. In the community, she served as a member of the Willing Workers, Carter-Olive Senior Citizens Group and was a strong supporter of the Johnnie Stanton, "Just Say No" Club. She especially enjoyed the fellowship of the Senior Citizen's Nutrition Group.

Mrs. Johnson was a dedicated homemaker. Mrs. Johnson's love and dedication to her husband, her children, and grandchildren is what provided them with the inspiration in which to achieve their many accomplishments.

She loved her home and was happiest when she was with her family. Mrs. Johnson was also an avid reader. Her children and grandchildren cherish the memories of the time she spent with them in the small library she established in the family home.

She is survived by her daughters, Sallye Ruth Johnson Moore and husband, Vandine of

Grand Prairie, TX, U.S. Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson of Dallas, TX and Washington, DC and former husband Lacy Kirk Johnson, Lee Helen Johnson Willis of Houston, TX and husband Favor DePriest Willis, Esq. (deceased), son Carl Edward Johnson and wife Beverly; grandchildren: Gregory Dean Moore and wife Juana of Plano, TX, Lawrence Kirk Johnson and wife Sondra of Austin, TX, Karlton Jamar Johnson and Kanish JaKayel of Waco, TX; great grandchildren: Gregory Dean Moore II and Preston Andrew Moore of Plano, TX, Lawrence Kirk Johnson II, David Edward Johnson and James Lacy Johnson of Austin, TX, Jay Lynne Kourtney Johnson and Karlton Jamar Johnson II of Waco, TX; Special Niece: Luberta White Mayse of Waco, TX, Special Nephew: Robert Lee (RL) Ashford of Los Angeles, CA, sister in law: Mrs. Fannie Mae Johnson Wells of Brenham and Giddings, TX and many other special nieces and nephews and a host of family members and friends.

On behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus and our colleagues in Congress, may God carry her soul gently in her passage to peace. We know God joins with us today as we pray, "Sleep well my good and faithful servant." May we all know the service to others as epitomized by Mrs. Lillie Mae White Johnson.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ZION REFORM CHURCH OF WINESBURG, OHIO

#### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the dedicated people of the Zion Reform Church of Winesburg, Ohio celebrate the 175th anniversary with great joy; and

Whereas, this milestone is the result of what a tempered people began on September 9th, 1832; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate to us that love mixed with grace and trust will stand the test of time; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish of this body that you will continue to present this work as a beacon for hope to the destitute and maintain your stand as a symbol to this generation that our strength lays in our gracious commitment in unity to each other in the bonds of brotherhood; and

Whereas, you have demonstrated excellence in your calling as a church, anything less would have left you bereaved of such a jubilant occasion, and we are proud to have you as sons and daughters in the great state of Ohio and of our nation; be it

*Resolved*, That along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the congregation for your unwavering labor and commitment, recognizing that all great achievements come at a cost. With great appreciation and respect, we wish you continued abundant grace as you continue to labor for your Lord, Jesus Christ.

#### TRIBUTE TO LANCELOT WRIGHT

#### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and an entrepreneur who has overcome adversity and achieved great success. Lancelot Devon Wright, known as Lance to his friends, is being honored by his community and his family on October 23, 2007 for his 20 years of success leading businesses in Columbia, South Carolina.

Lance Wright was born to a single mom in Boston, Massachusetts in 1966. During his younger years, Lance was raised by both his mom, Joan Joanne Wright, and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wright of Holly Hill, South Carolina. Lance and his mother moved to Columbia when he was 10 years old, and it is the town he still calls home. He spent his formative years at Fort Jackson elementary schools and W.J. Keenan High School. One of his passions in high school was tennis, and he was quite accomplished at the game. His competitiveness on the court was a precursor to his competitiveness in business.

Although Lance's family didn't have much financially, he did grow up with a tremendous work ethic. At the age of 14, he became a dishwasher for a local renowned caterer, Bob Funderburk. Mr. Funderburk served as a mentor to Lance, and set him on a promising path.

While a student at the University of South Carolina, Lance worked his way up at the USC Faculty House restaurant from kitchen manager, to food and beverage manager, and eventually he became a chef. These jobs enabled Lance to pay for college, help his family, and gave him the skills he would need to launch a career.

At 21, Lance left college to start his own restaurant, the Las Vegas Deli in downtown Columbia. He and his business partner, Lenwood Greene, employed 10 people and built a successful restaurant. After 5 years, The Deli, as it was known, was forced to close when the building owner sold the property. Lance and Lenwood then opened their second restaurant, The Grille. The business was such a success it spun off to create a nightclub called Sunset Place and a billiards hall known as Sunset Pub. Finally The Grille also launched a very profitable catering business.

It was during this time that Lance reignited his love for tennis. He joined a men's tennis team at Greenvue Park in Columbia. As captain of their team, he recognized that the tennis facilities at Greenvue were sorely lacking. He led an effort to get the City of Columbia to upgrade the facilities. In 1997, the City supported Lance and his grassroots effort, and made a commitment to build a new tennis facility. Today Greenvue Park has nine lighted tennis courts, hosts numerous teams for league play and tournaments, and provides programs for youth.

In 1995, Lance married Adrienne Felder of Columbia. It became clear a few years into his marriage that his businesses were taking too much time away from his family. So in 1998, he made a break from The Grille and began Home Choice Mortgage in a spare bedroom at his home. The business grew to seven employees, and provided alternative financing for residential loans to many South Carolinians.

Yet Lance knew there were community needs and that he had the entrepreneurial skills to help address those needs. As a child, he often rode his bike to a pharmacy to pick up his grandmother's medical supplies and prescriptions. That experience helped him visualize the need for a mail order company to supply these products to rural communities and senior citizens. In January 2000 he launched National Direct Diabetic Supply. Lance and his two associates, Tom Crocker and Andre Lewis, began the company to serve diabetics by mail. The company grew so quickly they had to move every year for the first 3 years to accommodate its growth.

Currently the company exists as National Direct Home Pharmacy. It has added additional services which include a full service pharmacy. Lance, as CEO and President, oversees approximately 125 employees and serves patients all over the country. He still maintains the company headquarters in Columbia, South Carolina.

Lance continues to support the community and contributes generously to the arts, the First Tee golf program for youth, and the American Diabetes Association among other worthy causes. He and his wife, Adrienne, have two sons, Lancelot II and Sean Christopher.

Lance continues to support the community and contributes generously to the arts, the First Tee golf program for youth, and the American Diabetes Association among other worthy causes. He and his wife, Adrienne, have two sons, Lancelot II and Sean Christopher.

Madam Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lancelot Wright, Sr. for 20 years of entrepreneurial success and dedication to his community. His perseverance and passion have built a better life for his family, his community and the customers he serves. Lance is a true success story, whose life could have taken a very different direction. His family, faith and his fortitude helped him achieve remarkable things. I wish him continued success and Godspeed!

# HONORING THE LIFE OF KATHLEEN MCCREE LEWIS

## HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to honor the life of Kathleen McCree Lewis who recently passed away. The daughter of the late, Federal Judge, Wade McCree. "Kathy Lewis", as she was known, to all of us, was the lifelong partner and wife of David Baker Lewis and loving mother to Aaron and Sarah, their two children. Kathy was a dear friend and a loyal supporter of the Detroit, Michigan community. I valued her friendship and loyalty to her family and friends. She always gave her greatest effort to all that she accomplished. Kathy will always remain in our hearts and minds as a woman who dedicated her life to her family and to her community.

Kathy was a distinguished partner in the law firm of Dykema Gossett, Detroit, Michigan, where she was a specialist in appellate litigation. As an outstanding member of the State of Michigan Bar she was known for her continued involvement and support for all areas of substantive civil law, which included specialties in anti-trust, bankruptcy, environmental, banking, land use, product liability, intellectual property, and general commercial law.

Kathy was well recognized on the State and Federal level and in the U.S. Court of Appeals in more than five jurisdictions, as well as in the United States Supreme Court. Kathy achieved recognition by "Law and Politics" as one of the best lawyers in America and Michigan Lawyers Weekly named Kathy as one of Michigan's top ten lawyers of 2006.

Kathy was the recipient of the 1992 Wayne County neighborhood legal services award and the 1993 Dykema Gossett Pro bono award. She was named one of Detroit's most influential women. Kathy and her husband David jointly received the Learned Hand Award, from the Detroit Chapter of the Amer-

ican Jewish Committee Institute of Human Rights, for their civic, educational and philanthropic endeavors.

The greater Michigan community will sorely miss her generous efforts that she graciously gave on behalf of the committee on Children's Rights Litigation, Children's Hospital of Michigan, Children's Museum Friends, Grosse Pointe Academy, Detroit Chapter's of International Summer Villages, Inc., Jack and Jill of America, Inc., as well as other educational and philanthropic activities which were so much a part of her life. The world needs more individuals like Kathy, who give so much and ask for so little in return. Tonight, I and the people of the State of Michigan, will mourn the loss of Kathleen McCree Lewis.

# A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF TUSCORA PARK IN NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO

## HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Tuscora Park at New Philadelphia is celebrating 100 years of operation; and

Whereas, the park is one of 38 in the U.S. to celebrate this historical milestone; and

Whereas, Tuscora Park has brought wonderful memories to countless patrons and will continue to create memories for years to come; and

Whereas, the old amusement park has evolved into a municipal park and is still enjoyed by the community; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I applaud Tuscora Park and the community that has supported it for 100 years.



## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, October 18, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## OCTOBER 23

- 10 a.m.  
Environment and Public Works  
To hold hearings to examine the human impacts of global warming. SD-406
- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
To hold hearings to examine the efficacy of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program, focusing on our Cold War heroes. SD-430
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine six years after the anthrax attacks, focusing on our preparedness to respond to bioterrorism. SD-342
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee  
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Surface Transportation Board and regulation related to railroads. SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) strategic plan. SDG-50

## OCTOBER 24

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine to consider pending legislation. SD-562

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the future of radio. SR-253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine ways to build an effective terrorist screening system. SD-342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations. SD-226

Environment and Public Works

Private Sector and Consumer Solutions to Global Warming and Wildlife Protection Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation entitled "America's Climate Security Act of 2007". SD-406

10:30 a.m.

Aging

To hold hearings to examine hidden 401K fees, focusing on ways that disclosure can increase retirement security. SD-628

1:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the role of federally-funded university research in the patent system. SD-226

2 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Securities, Insurance and Investment Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine international accounting standards, focusing on opportunities, challenges, and global coverage issues. SD-538

5 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold a closed conference to examine the fiscal year 2008 Intelligence Authorization bill. S-407, Capitol

OCTOBER 25

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gregory F. Jacob, of New Jersey, to be Solicitor, and Howard Radzely, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, both of the Department of Labor. SD-430

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine sweatshop conditions in the toy industry in China. SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine single audits, focusing on a recent study on the potential impacts that implementing certain recommendations could have to help ensure that federal funds are safeguarded. SD-342

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

## OCTOBER 31

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine vocational rehabilitation. SD-562

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine universal telephone service. SR-253

## NOVEMBER 7

10 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office report focusing on funding challenges and facilities maintenance at the Smithsonian Institution. SR-301